

ECC Student Makes TV Debut on 'Mr. Novack'

At least one of the students on television's popular "Mr. Novack" series is a real college student.

He's Todd Bingham, a theater arts student at El Camino College. Bingham, who was recently in the ECC production of "The Desperate Hours," landed the part with the help of instructor Burnett Ferguson.

Joe DiAgosto, casting director for MGM studios, called Ferguson during casting for "The Desperate Hours" and asked about students who

might want to do some work in television. Ferguson recommended Bingham and Tom Nardini.

AFTER AN interview, Bingham was called back for a reading, and came back to school with a script tucked in his pocket. He reported for filming the following Monday.

Bingham plays a student who is involved in a fight on the episode. While trying to separate the boys, Mr. Novack, played by series star James

Franciscus, inadvertently injures one of the students, MacDonald Carey, in the role of the father of the injured student, blames the instructor for the injury.

BINGHAM finds television much different from working on the stage. "In TV, they don't want you to act," he observed. "They pick an actor who best fits the part and speaks normally."

Following the filming of the Mr. Novack show, DiAgosto

Torrance Stamp Club Meeting Slated Monday

The Torrance Stamp Club will meet in the Scott Park Community Building, 23410 Catskill Ave., Wilmington, at 7:30 p.m. Monday.

During the evening, club members will hold their annual Christmas party. An auction, scheduled for the November meeting, also will be held. The November meeting was cancelled after President Kennedy was assassinated.

All stamp collectors have been invited to attend the meeting and party.

Children Most Frequently Contact German Measles

By K. H. SUTHERLAND, M.D., County Health Officer

German measles (rubella) is a communicable disease caused by the German measles virus. The ailment occurs most frequently during the winter and spring and most generally appears in children of school age. Epidemics of German measles also occur in college students and among military recruits or other groups of young people.

The illness caused by Ger-

man measles is usually very mild, and the disease is considered serious only when it occurs during the early months of pregnancy.

When German measles is contracted during early pregnancy, there is grave danger that it will result in some congenital defect in the child. Various estimates have been given as to the extent of the risk, but reliable studies have shown that 18 to 19 per cent of live-born infants are abnormal if German measles occurs in the mother during the first three months of pregnancy, while 57 to 50 per cent of infants are affected if the disease occurs during the first four weeks.

The most common defects following maternal rubella include blindness (congenital cataracts), deaf mutism and heart disease.

THE VIRUS of German measles is transmitted from one person to another by means of direct contact with an infected individual or by inhalation of the viruses discharged from his nose or throat. The infection may also be spread by touching articles freshly soiled with the infected person's secretions.

Following inoculation of the individual by the rubella virus, it takes two or three weeks, usually about 18 days for signs to appear. Small pinkish-red spots, which may resemble the rash of measles or scarlet fever or a combination of both, appear first on the face and usually cover the body within 24 hours.

The lymph glands back of the ear may become enlarged

and the temperature may rise a little. This acute and most contagious stage of the infection lasts about three days, and explains why the illness is sometimes called "three day measles." German measles is in no way related to true measles however.

AS A RULE, children who get rubella experience very little discomfort. Adults, in whom the disorder seems to occur more frequently than does measles, may be more uncomfortable.

The virus responsible for German measles was isolated by research workers of the National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Blindness more than a year ago. This made it possible to develop a vaccine which, in many cases of known exposure to the disease, will protect women in the critical months of pregnancy. The vaccine is still in the experimental stage and is not yet ready for release to the public.

Medical authorities do not attempt to protect healthy children, especially girls, against exposure to the infection. One attack of the disease generally confers a life-long immunity.

Although there is some difference of medical opinion concerning the effectiveness of immune serum globulin, it is sometimes administered in those cases involving pregnant women who have never had the disease and who are exposed to the infection during the first three or four months of pregnancy.

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